

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 131 (Senator Della)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Sunday Sales for Class A Licensees

This bill raises the licensing fee for a Sunday Class A retail off-sale alcoholic beverage license in Baltimore City from \$25 to \$50 per Sunday. The Sunday sale license is good for the Sundays that fall between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Sunday licensing fees collected by the Baltimore City Board of License Commissioners could increase by approximately \$17,350 in FY 2001 and by a similar amount in the fiscal years thereafter.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The Sunday Class A retail off-sale alcoholic beverage license in Baltimore City is \$25 per Sunday and can be purchased for any of the Sundays between the Sunday that is two Sundays before Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Class A Sunday licensees can sell alcoholic beverages between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. on each Sunday for which a license is issued.

Local Revenues: In Baltimore City, Sunday Class A licenses were available for the two Sundays prior to Thanksgiving for the first time in 1999. There were 107 licensed alcoholic beverage retailers that bought licenses for both extra Sundays and 11 retailers that paid for one additional Sunday. Twenty more licensees paid for an average of 3.35 Sundays out of the five available for Sunday licenses between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day in 1999. In total, Baltimore City sold licenses for 882 Sundays, generating \$22,050 in Sunday Class A licensing revenues for fiscal 2000.

In calendar 2000, there are six Sundays between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Assuming the 118 licensed alcoholic beverage retailers who purchased six or seven licenses in 1999 would apply for and receive the full complement of six Sunday licenses in 2000, the licensing fees would generate \$35,400 in revenues for Baltimore City. Assuming the 20 licensees who bought five or fewer Sunday licenses in 1999 would apply for and receive an average of four Sunday licenses in 2000, the licensing fees would generate \$4,000 in revenues for Baltimore City. In total, \$39,400 in revenues would be generated, an increase of \$17,350 over fiscal 2000. Estimations for the out-years may differ depending on the number of Sundays between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Years with only five Sundays eligible for the Sunday Class A license would produce approximately one-sixth less revenue, about \$32,833.

Small Business Effect: Sunday Class A licenses would be more expensive and would be available for fewer Sundays. However, this is not expected to have a significant impact on the overall profits of small alcohol retailers or other small businesses located near the retailers.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 31, 2000
nncsjr

Analysis by: Mark Collins

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510